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Aruba Senior League players move on to semi-finals in World Series



Aruba against Hawaii



Aruba South LL player

The Senior League World Series is now taking place in Bangor, Maine, with Aruba's team, San Nicolas LL, defending their title as World Champions 2010. The team won the Latin American Championships in July after a series of games very similar to the present results of this week's World Series.

During the Latin Championships in Puerto Rico, Aruba had lost to Venezuela in their first game, finishing pool play with 3-1, earning

them their place in the semi-finals to square off against the top team of the other pool, from Guatemala, which they defeated 11-0. Aruban players then squared off against Venezuela, which was undefeated going into the final game, and took the Latin American title with an 8-3 victory.

Aruba's players are now facing very much the same situation, and followers are hoping they can pull it out again. Aruba's stands second place in pool B after losing to Hilo, Hawaii team on Monday, in a close game ending 4-3. Presently, Aruba has clinched their place in the semi-finals, having won all their other games, finishing 3-1 in pool play. Yesterday, Hawaii played their final game, which had been delayed by bad weather, against U.S. Central/Northwest champions from Midland, Michigan, remaining undefeated and keeping their top spot in their pool.

Aruba will face off against Pool A top team U.S. Southwest champs, Rose

Capital East from Tyler, Texas in the semifinals, beginning today at 10:00. When departing Aruba, Coach Manuel Gregory commented the Texas team was one of the contenders that would truly test the mettle of the Aruban players. "They

are tough and determined," he said. If Aruba beats Texas, they are on to the final championship match on Saturday, August 20, which is scheduled to start at 2:00 PM.

Islanders can follow the semifinal and final Senior League World Series action

on ESPN or via the Internet with Pointstreak at: <http://www.pointstreak.com/baseball/scoreboard.html?leagueid=688&seasonid=1822>.

by Rosalie Klein



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

US to review deportations, focus on criminals



WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Obama administration said Thursday it would postpone the deportation of illegal immigrants without criminal records and allow them to apply for work permits as it reviews over 300,000 cases.

The case review would only affect those undocumented immigrants already in line for deportation proceedings, and not the vast majority of the estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States.

The move comes amid criticism from rights activists of

President Barack Obama's administration for deporting a record number of illegal immigrants and failing to get Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

"The idea is set those cases aside... see where we can identify very low priorities, and essentially, administratively, close the case so they no longer clog the system," a senior administration official told reporters.

The official however noted that the government could re-open a case at any given time.

"At the same time, we're going to provide additional guidance to our people on the field when they encounter someone in the country unlawfully," the official added on condition of anonymity.

In fiscal year 2010, which ended September 30, the United States deported a record 392,000 illegal immigrants. More than half of those individuals had prior convictions.

Another senior administration official said the directive was aimed at investing US resources where they would have a "massive impact" on high-priority cases, such as those convicted of crimes in the United States, rather than "clogging up the system" with low-priority cases.

Immigrant rights activists protested in several cities across the country this week against Obama's policies on deportation, warning they could cost him votes from the Hispanic community when he runs for reelection in 2012.

UN 'preoccupied' by Ivory Coast humanitarian situation

ABIDJAN (AFP) - The humanitarian situation in western Ivory Coast, a region hit hard by post-electoral violence, is preoccupying despite thousands of displaced returning home, the United Nations said.

More than 44,000 internally displaced people have returned home, leaving about 30,000 people still unsettled, United Nations, Ndolamb Ngokwey, said, he added that at least 171,000 Ivorians were still taking refuge in neighbouring Liberia.

Insecurity remains a problem in the west, he said, noting continued "attacks by military forces" without providing more details.

Ngokwey said more than 314,000 people faced food insecurity, having left their land fallow during the unrest.

The political crisis began with incumbent Laurent Gbagbo refusing to step down as president after official re-

sults showed a victory for his opponent Alassane Ouattara.

At least 3,000 people are estimated to have been killed in violence that ended last April with the arrest of Gbagbo by forces supporting the new president.

The head of the UN mission in the Ivory Coast meanwhile said that forces loyal to Gbagbo were totally stamped out and that "everything indicated a return to peace in the country".

Gbagbo had lost the trust of the Ivorian population after having held on to power for four months, Choi Young-jin said on a visit to Burkina Faso to meet president Blaise Compaore, a key mediator during the crisis.

Public prosecutors announced Thursday that Gbagbo and his wife Simone had been charged with "economic crimes" and placed under preventative detention.

Gorbachev 'unhappy' with Russia, 20 years on



MOSCOW (AFP) - The Soviet Union's last leader Mikhail Gorbachev this week expressed sadness that Russia was "going backwards", two decades after the coup that precipitated the collapse of the USSR.

In a clear attack on the dominant political grouping of Vladimir Putin, Gorbachev, 80, also warned that Russia should not repeat the mistake of the Soviet Union in being ruled by a monopoly. Russia today marks 20 years since the August 19, 1991 coup by Soviet hardliners against Gorbachev's policy of reform which ended up hastening the demise of the entire USSR in December that year.

The 20th anniversary of the Soviet collapse is set against an increasingly anxious atmosphere of uncertainty over who will be Russia's president for the next six years after polls next spring.

Gorbachev regularly criti-

cises Putin, who served as president after Boris Yeltsin from 2000, and is currently prime minister. Putin is still the main decision maker in the country even after giving up the Kremlin seat to his protege Dmitry Medvedev in 2008.

Gorbachev said he believed that the latest arrival in Russia's political landscape -- billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov who heads the liberal Right Cause party -- is acting "on government orders".

Analysts have increasingly speculated that Putin intends to return to the Kremlin and the prime minister has launched a broad-based United Civic Front to bring in supporters for his ruling United Russia party.

Observers have compared the United Russia party with the Communist Party which had a complete monopoly over policy making in the Soviet Union for 80 years until it was outlawed by Yeltsin.

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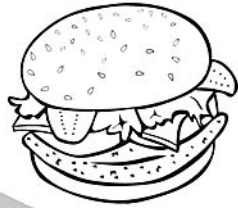
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Seniors ecstatic with new living facilities



SAN NICOLAS -- The new Senior Citizen's Home has finally become a reality and our senior residents are extremely pleased with all the modern facilities and spacious living quarters. According to Hans Rokebrand, director of the Home, they are contemplating building individual homes in the large yard area around the home.

SABA is the foundation that manages the three senior citizen homes: Maris Stella in Savaneta, Paviljoen in the city and the brand new Centro di Cuido in the Palisaweg in San Nicolaas.

On Tuesday, Minister of Social Affairs, Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer visited the new San Nicolaas facilities. The Minister wanted to see for herself how the moving process was going and to get an idea of what the residents think of their new place of abode.

Simply put, they were all ecstatic with the new and spacious facilities!

Some homes were built especially for those seniors who can fend for themselves and live alone with little assistance. The Minister remarked that she was very pleased with the work completed and observed that both residents and employees were extremely proud of the facilities.

By this means the govern-

ment expects to reduce the long waiting list of those desiring to be housed in a senior citizen's home.

Director Hans Rokebrand explained that the San Nicolaas Center is fine, but that there are problems at the Maris Stella and Paviljoen Centers. There is the scarcity of air conditioners and the recent heat wave makes it very difficult for our seniors. They also expect to get more rooms, more space so they could accommodate more elderly persons needing professional care and supervision.



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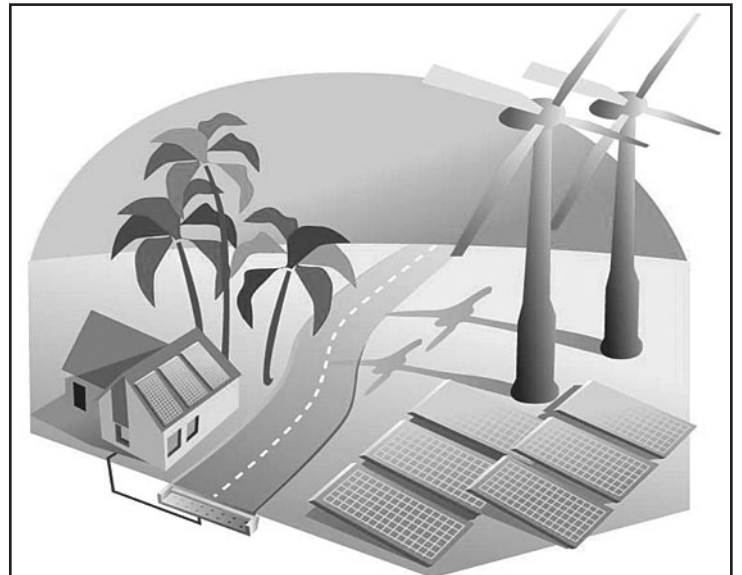
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One resident, Rosalinda Wever, remarked that in the first instance she was against coming to a senior citizens Home, but today, she said..."I am very happy with the service from the nurses, with the new

facilities, this large home and the love that I receive here." She talked about every one having their own room, their own toilet, their own bed, etc. And, staff always ready to help with whatever you need.

Upon completion it will be a new and more effective and efficient facility. The Bohama Company won the bid for this project and will commence the work very shortly. All the work should be completed within at least one year. BK Consult will be in charge of the supervision of the process.

Aruba welcomes TNO Caribbean Sustainable Research Institute



ORANJESTAD -- At the end of October the second Green Conference is scheduled to take place here on Aruba. The first conference held here last September brought green energy stalwart, former Vice President Al Gore to Aruba as keynote speaker. This year's conference promises to be another fantastic event with a line up of some of the world's most renowned speakers on alternative energy. One very spectacular event to take place during this Green Conference will be the inauguration of TNO Caribbean Sustainable Research Institute on Aruba.

With 5000 hours of wind and 2000 hours of sun Aruba has the great capacity to generate sustainable energy. Aruba is already using 18% of wind power for our part of our energy needs and intends to double this within 5 years. TNO has chosen to come to Aruba and set up shop here because Aruba's climate is simply unique. Our wind is constant and the sun's heat is ideal. These fit perfectly for TNO's objectives. What's more, because Aruba is an island, you don't have neighbors to take into consideration. This is an

added advantage. Aruba is the perfect "garden" in which to conduct sustainable energy research. Still another benefit for doing research on Aruba is our strategic position between the US and Latin America. These are strategic markets where many positive things are taking place in the realm of alternative energy. Hence, for TNO there is no better place than Aruba to establish their institute. It is also interesting to note that Arubans know the culture and customs of the countries in our region.

What exactly will the TNO Caribbean Sustainable Research Institute be doing on Aruba?

For one, they will not be working alone. They will be joined by a group of partners. TNO will begin offering Summer courses on a high academic level, and will be organizing seminars and conferences in Aruba. They will set up a center of education geared to students in the region offering technical education. Aruba will serve as a "living lab" where investigations will be conducted under ideal conditions which could be later exported to other markets.

Continued on page 4

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It's all accolades, awards and recognitions for Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive in 2011

Properties Earn Kudos from Top Travel Brands Travelocity, TripAdvisor and Travel + Leisure

ORANJESTAD – As the summer began to heat up, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive were also becoming “hot” as the properties earned recognitions from top travel industry brands Travelocity, TripAdvisor and Travel + Leisure for 2011.

“It’s truly an honor to receive these distinctions from some of the most prestigious brands in the travel and tourism industry,” said Alex Nieuwmeier, Managing Director of Divi Resorts Aruba and Bonaire. “The fact that all three were awarded within the past few months is both a milestone and a testament to the success of our operations even within today’s highly competitive marketplace.”

In May, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba were named recipients of the inaugural Travelocity Excellence Award. They were among just 500 hotels out of more than 70,000 offered on Travelocity’s website recognized by the organization for their commitment to provide only the best experiences to guests. That same month, TripAdvisor awarded a 2011 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence to the Tamarijn Aruba. The certificate is presented to properties who consistently receive excellent ratings from TripAdvisor members. In June, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba were named among the 10 Best Affordable All-Inclusive Resorts by Travel + Leisure. In the past, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive have received accolades from Apple Vacations and Caribbean Travel + Life magazine. Both properties received silver Earthcheck Certification in February 2011.

The properties have recently launched their own Facebook page, located at <http://www.facebook.com/DiviandTamarijnAruba>, already boasting over 2,800 “likes”

since it was created on June 15, 2011. A new news blog, www.diviaruba.com/blog, has also debuted this summer.

Located just thirty minutes from the airport and five minutes from Aruba’s capital city, Oranjestad, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba resorts are set on beautiful Druif Beach, with a shopping arcade and the Alhambra Casino nearby. Guests staying at either the AAA 3-Diamond Divi Aruba or the adjacent, oceanfront Tamarijn Aruba have use of all facilities and services of both properties. All stays at the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba include all meals and snacks at a choice of nine dining options, unlimited beverages at seven bars, the use of three freshwater pools, a wide range of activities including non-motorized water sports and nightly entertainment. In addition, all guests may use the well-equipped Divi Winds Sports Center, which features a 30-foot outdoor rock climbing wall on the beach. At the Divi Aruba, the chic new pool deck has become a central gathering place for guests of both properties to relax. The resorts offer a variety of packages including honeymoon, family, golf and wedding. An onsite wedding coordinator assists with arrangements for beach weddings through Aruba Weddings For You.

For reservations and more information about Divi & Tamarijn Aruba, contact your travel professional or 1-800-554-2008, 207-594-7888 or visit the resorts’ websites at www.diviaruba.com or www.tamarijnaruba.com.

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Aruba welcomes TNO ...

Continued from page 3

They will also do testing and certifications here. This means that companies building apparatus for the energy market can have their products tested here quickly and efficiently to determine whether they comply with recognized standards. If these products qualify they can then be certified in Aruba. TNO is intent on doing investigation and consultancy in Aruba which would be much less expensive than at large consultancy offices. The “founding fathers” of this institution here

in Aruba is the island of Aruba and TNO. Other partners are Hoge School Rotterdam, Hanze Hoge School, and a few American Universities.

For American Universities it would be much easier to work with Aruba than with the Netherlands. This is primarily because of the shorter distance between Aruba and the USA.

Another partner is ECN, which is another center of research on energy. Alongside of these partners there are other businesses that see business in

this kind of development and opportunities on the local market as well as on the Latin American market. We can expect partnerships also from the Latin American market. All of these markets are involved in the study of alternative energy. When the cost of electricity becomes cheaper, people have the tendency to use more of it. And, it will be interesting to study this phenomenon from a social perspective, says the organizers of this interesting research center.

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Unity in the promotion of Papiamentu

ORANJESTAD -- On May 21, 2003 the government of Aruba decreed Papiamentu as one of the official languages of Aruba. Making Papiamentu official was to encourage its use in our daily lives. In this context SETAR N.V. (Aruba's telecommunication company) joined with the Department of Education to include information about our Papiamentu in the telephone directory. On pages 19 to 24 in the directory under the "community pages" section in the 2011 edition of the telephone directory they included some of the rules of the orthography and grammar of Papiamentu.

SETAR once before had also cooperated with the Department of Education in the promotion of our language. In the 2010 edition of the telephone directory they had published a section on information regarding Papiamentu and had their front cover dedicated to Papiamentu with the caption "Solo ta Sali pa nos tur."

Just recently the Department of Education published a bookmark to be used with the telephone directory. On one side of the bookmark there is general information about our language and on the other side spaces to note important telephone num-

bers. Every SETAR customer will receive this bookmark with his telephone bill.

Much has been done to promote Papiamentu by the "Nos idioma ta den bo man Papiamentu, cuid'e" project which was begun in 2008. They have published a calendar in Papiamentu, posters, stickers and t-shirts. They offered workshops on Papiamentu with an attendance of over 400 persons. They have also presented programs on television and documentaries.

Anyone desiring to know more about Aruba's beloved Papiamentu can visit the website: www.papiamentu.aw. There you will find a barrage of information on the history and development of our language, general as well as scientific articles on Papiamentu, a list of the Papiamentu dictionaries that exist, also the rules of grammar and orthography of Papiamentu. Anyone wishing to comment on Papiamentu or to simply submit information can visit the Papiamentu Aruba page on Facebook.

Every one of us as citizens of Aruba can help to elevate the level of our language. We must help to transmit our language to the next generation in the correct manner.

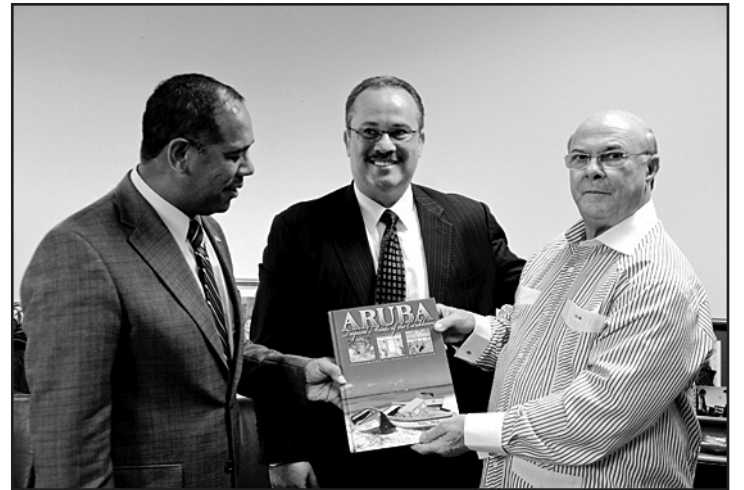
Dominican Republic Presidential candidate interested in Aruba's Alternative energy exploits

ORANJESTAD -- Former President and current Presidential candidate of the Dominican Republic, Ing. Hipolito Mejia Dominguez, paid a visit to the Aruba government immediately upon his arrival on Aruba this week. He met with Ministers Benny Sievinger and Mike de Meza.

This wasn't the Dominican Republic statesman's first visit to Aruba. He visited the island during his tenure as President (2000-2004), while he was member of the Revolutionary Dominican Party.

Mejia Dominguez is on tour of all the islands in the Caribbean where nationals of the Dominican Republic are residing. These visits are in conjunction with his candidacy for President in the upcoming Presidential elections in Santo Domingo to take place in May of 2012.

During his visit with the Aruba government they discussed topics of interest such as the contact between the islands in our region and with Santo Domingo.



The Presidential candidate was extremely interested, being an agronomist himself, in solar and wind energy that the Aruba government is concentrating on. He intended to pay a visit to WEB and the Windmill Park at Vader Piet.

Ministers de Meza and Sievinger shared with Mejia Dominguez Aruba's plans for a second Green Conference to be held here very soon, for which he showed great interest.

Mejia Dominguez ex-

pressed his satisfaction for the large active and unified colony of 'Dominicanos' residing here on Aruba. He also had praise for the good relationship that exists with the Consul General of the Dominican Republic here on Aruba.

At the end of his brief visit to our island, he was presented with a book of portraits of Aruba and a lovely lapel pin with the Aruban flag. He was wished much success in his bid for the Presidency of his nation.

Taxi Chauffeurs happy with new management

ORANJESTAD -- Just recently, the Minister of Tourism had a survey conducted among our taxi chauffeurs to ascertain our taxi drivers' opinion of the recently agreed protocol that the taxi cooperative signed last April.

Within the span of one month all taxi chauffeurs had the opportunity to participate in the survey. Of the 400 taxi drivers on the island, 249 filled out the survey with 248 valid forms submitted. This means that a total of 62% of our taxi chauffeurs responded to the survey, which is a rather high and significantly representative percentage. The majority of the proposals in the protocol were accepted by the taxi drivers. This demonstrates their support for the Minister's management with respect to our public transport and specifically as this relates to the taxis on Aruba.

One of the proposals which received the approval of the taxi drivers is the one that states that "...the government DOPV Department will continue to intensify their control."

As many as 238 of our taxi drivers were in agreement with this, 2 were against this meas-

ure while 8 had no opinion on the matter. This proves that our taxi drivers are in favor of the control being exercised by DOPV so that they can all abide by the prescribed rules.

A total of 239 taxi chauffeurs were in favor of the proposal which states that "...all situations of infringement on rules will be reported to DOPV." These drivers want everything to proceed orderly and to avoid all violation of the stipulated rules.

It is also important to note that 220 of these drivers were in agreement with the proposal to request a drug test at any moment from a driver or assistant driver for up to a maximum of 2 times per year. By accepting this proposition these drivers are saying that they realize that when they have passengers in their vehicles they are conscious of the responsibility they have to protect the lives of those people and to be able to drive carefully.

Our taxi chauffeurs, however, were not in favor of a reduction in the tariff being charged by AAA NV and APA NV to drive unto their premises to collect passengers. The proposed reduction is from Fls.400 and Fls.210 per year

respectively to Fls.115 per year.

The reason for their objection to this proposal is because they are of the firm opinion that they should not have to pay a penny to have access to the premises mentioned in exercising their job.

While the majority of our taxi drivers do not believe in a unified color for all taxis, they do feel that an explicit "Taxi Sign" and an official notice board announcing the official fares are necessary.

They also agreed on having 25 vacation days per year for all taxi drivers. And that assistant taxi Chauffeurs should be permitted to use their private vehicle as a taxi and to fill in when the other driver is on vacation. They were also in favor of making the proposed training program being offered by Ensenanza Pa Empleo obligatory for taxi chauffeurs as it is for employees in the hotels.

The overwhelmingly positive response to this survey is a clear indication to the Minister that our taxi chauffeurs are serious about contributing to a better quality of tourism, and an even more professional and effective service to our esteemed visitors.



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Sci-Tech

IBM unveils computer chips that mimic human brain

NEW YORK (AFP) - US computer giant IBM announced on Thursday that it has developed prototypes of computer chips that mimic the way the human brain works.

The Armonk, New York-based company known as "Big Blue" said the experimental "cognitive computing chips" could eventually lead to machines that "emulate the brain's abilities for perception, action and cognition."

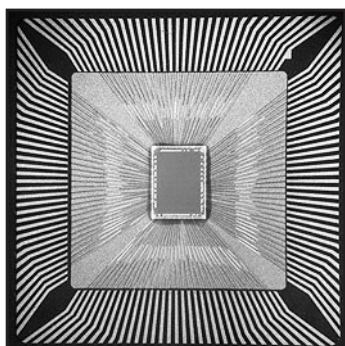
"These chips are another significant step in the evolution of computers from calculators to learning systems, signaling the beginning of a new generation of computers," said Dharmendra Modha, project leader for IBM Research.

"Future applications of computing will increasingly demand functionality that is not efficiently delivered by the traditional architecture," Modha said.

IBM said cognitive computers, like the human brain, would "learn through experiences, find correlations, create hypotheses, and remember -- and learn from -- the outcomes."

Roger Kay of Endpoint Technologies Associates said that IBM was "taking the architecture of the brain and saying 'Can we somehow make the electronics mimic what we know about the brain, how the brain works.'"

"They haven't got to the point where it's doing any



practical work yet but they've proven the concept out," Kay told AFP. "It's a new frontier."

According to IBM, which has been conducting artificial intelligence research since 1956, the chips could lead to computers able to ingest complex, real-time information through multiple sensors and translate it into action.

For example, a cognitive computing system monitoring the world's water supply could issue tsunami warnings using a network of sensors that monitor inputs such as temperature, pressure, wave height and acoustics.

"Making sense of real-time input flowing at an ever-dizzying rate would be a Herculean task for today's computers, but would be natural for a brain-inspired system," IBM said.

"Imagine traffic lights that can integrate sights, sounds and smells and flag unsafe intersections before disaster happens," Modha said.

So far, IBM said, it has managed to carry out simple applications using the proto-

type chips like navigation, pattern recognition and classification.

IBM said the cognitive computing chips replicate the biological synapses, neurons and axons of the human brain using algorithms and silicon circuitry.

They feature integrated memory (replicated synapses), computation (replicated neurons) and communication (replicated axons), it said.

The "long-term goal" of Big Blue is to build a chip system with 10 billion neurons and 100 trillion synapses which consumes just one kilowatt of power and occupies less than two liters of volume.

IBM said the project has received \$21 million in new funding from the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

Earlier this year, an IBM supercomputer known as Watson defeated two human contestants on the popular US television quiz show Jeopardy!

Watson, named for IBM founder Thomas Watson, is capable of understanding natural human speech and quickly providing answers to complex questions.

Watson was the latest machine developed by IBM to challenge mankind -- in 1997, an IBM computer named "Deep Blue" defeated world chess champion Garry Kasparov in a six-game match.

come from us," said co-author James Porter of the University of Georgia.

Serratia marcescens can cause a host of infections in humans, ranging from respiratory to urinary to skin, and has been linked to meningitis and pneumonia.

"Bacteria from humans kill corals -- that's the bad news," said Porter. "But the good news is that we can solve this problem with advanced wastewater treatment facilities," like one recently completed in the tourist haven of Key West.

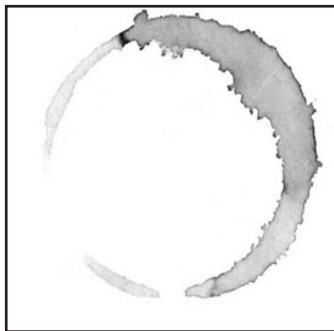
The entire surrounding area in south Florida is upgrading its wastewater treatment plants, which should block the bacteria from reaching to open ocean, the study said.



In the study published in the peer-reviewed journal PLoS ONE, researchers described their finding as "the first time a human disease has been shown to cause population declines of a marine invertebrate."

"These bacteria do not come from the ocean, they

Coffee stain helps smarter inks



PARIS (AFP) - Ever noticed that if you spill coffee onto a table and let it dry, the colour will be concentrated at the edges of the stain?

The intriguing phenomenon has been put under the microscope, and scientists believe their findings may encourage a revolution in printing, paints and product coatings.

The "coffee-ring effect", they report, derives from two factors: the shape of the particles in the liquid and the way these particles respond to surface tension.

"Particles" mean the molecules of coffee, ink or dye or whatever that are in suspension in the liquid.

Round particles tend to gather at the perimeter of the drop, which explains why they remain in a ring once it has dried, according to the research.

But particles that are elongated or ellipsoid distribute themselves in looser clumps, which makes it easier to smooth them across the entire surface.

"This work gives us a new idea about how to make a uniform coating, relatively simply," said Arjun Yodh of the University of Pennsylvania in a press release.

"If you change the particle shape, you can change the way a particle is deposited. You can also make mixtures. In some cases, even just a small amount of ellipsoids can change the way the particles deposit when they dry."

The investigation is published on Thursday in Nature, the British science journal. The university has posted an illustrative video on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZaCGoSTMHyC>).

No need for Botox: Man in the Moon looking younger



PARIS (AFP) - The Moon is 4.36 billion years old, up to 200 million years younger than thought, according to analysis of lunar rocks reported in Thursday's issue of Nature.

The estimate comes from a new dating of isotopes of lead and neodymium found in samples of ferroan anorthosite, a crustal rock that derives from magma.

A common theory for the origin of the Moon is that it was created by an impact between a large planet-sized object and the nascent Earth.

The molten material, or magma, that was ejected from this giant collision progressively cooled, hardening into Earth's rocky, barren and airless satellite.

"The extraordinarily young age of this lunar sample either means that the Moon solidified significantly

later than previous estimates, or that we need to change our entire understanding of the Moon's geochemical history," said Richard Carlson of the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington.

If the estimate is right, it implies that the oldest crusts on both Earth and Moon formed at roughly the same time, both of them shortly after the big smashup.

The dating concurs with a similar age estimate for zircons found in western Australia that are the oldest terrestrial minerals found.

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Human sewage kills imperiled coral: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Human sewage is to blame for a disease that is killing elkhorn coral, listed as endangered several years ago because of a massive die-off, US researchers said on Wednesday.

The coral lives in waters off south Florida and the Bahamas and was once the most prevalent in the Caribbean but has been vanishing due to white pox disease, caused by the bacterium *Serratia marcescens* that is found in human and animal waste.

Researchers analyzed the bacteria from a wastewater treatment facility in Key West, Florida and compared to feces samples from local animals and birds. The type afflicting coral was found to match the kind found in human sewage.

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Health & Living

Antibody trawl helps search for HIV vaccine

PARIS (AFP) - Researchers into HIV said they had identified 17 potent antibodies whose discovery opened up valuable pathways in the search for an AIDS vaccine.

Antibodies are the foot soldiers in the immune system, latching onto viral or microbial intruders and tagging them for destruction by specialised "killer" cells.

Priming antibodies to recognise pathogens is a textbook method in vaccines, al-



though it has proven agonisingly hard in the case of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which causes AIDS.

The new "broadly neutralising" antibodies are the biggest single haul so far and also many times more potent than those found previously, the scientists report in Thursday's issue of the British journal Nature.

"Most antiviral vaccines depend on stimulating the antibody response to work effectively," said Dennis Burton of the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California.

"Because of HIV's remarkable variability, an effective HIV vaccine will probably have to elicit broadly neutralising antibodies. This is why we expect that these new antibodies will prove to be valuable assets to the field of AIDS vaccine research."

The International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), a US NGO that sponsored the search, said the quest for HIV-neutralising antibodies was "perhaps the greatest challenge" facing vaccine engineers.

The 17 antibodies were isolated from four individuals with HIV, an achievement similar to looking for a needle in a haystack as only a very small number of people produce these powerful molecules.

AIDS has claimed some 30 million lives since the disease came to public notice in 1981. Around 34 million people today are infected with HIV, according to UN estimates.

Tests find thyroid radiation in Japanese children

TOKYO (AFP) - Forty-five percent of children tested in the region around Japan's stricken nuclear plant were found to have traces of radioactive elements in their thyroid glands, an official said Thursday.

The official said that the iodine concentrations -- found in tests that the government carried out about five months ago in Fukushima prefecture -- were not considered alarming in terms of their health impact.

The government's nuclear accident taskforce tested 1,149 children aged up to 15 about two weeks after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami triggered meltdowns, blasts and fires at the Fukushima plant.

Radioactive iodine tends to gather in the thyroid glands of minors in particular, increasing the risk of developing cancer later in life.

Of the valid test results collected for 1,080 children, 482 or 44.6 percent were confirmed to have some level of radioactive contamination in their thyroid glands, the government official told AFP.

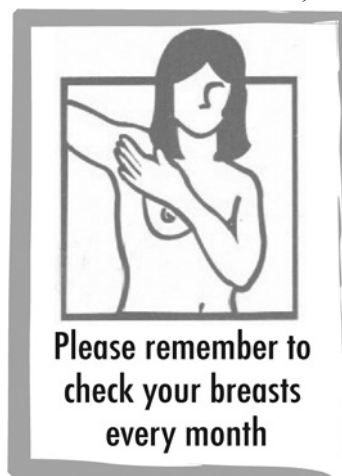
The commission recommends that children, especially young ones, whose thyroid gland is contaminated beyond the 0.2 mSv limit undergo an in-depth physical checkup, citing international standards.

The children tested came from three municipalities -- Iwaki city, Kawamata town and Iitate village -- where especially high levels of radiation had been estimated after the accident, the official said.

The Fukushima government plans to conduct life-time medical checks for the estimated 360,000 people aged 18 or younger who were in the prefecture at the time of the nuclear accident.

Some participants complained that the team took months to inform them of the detailed results despite the gravity of the nuclear accident.

The government official said the taskforce did not consider informing the families of the details results as a priority since no child had shown contamination levels beyond the safety limit.





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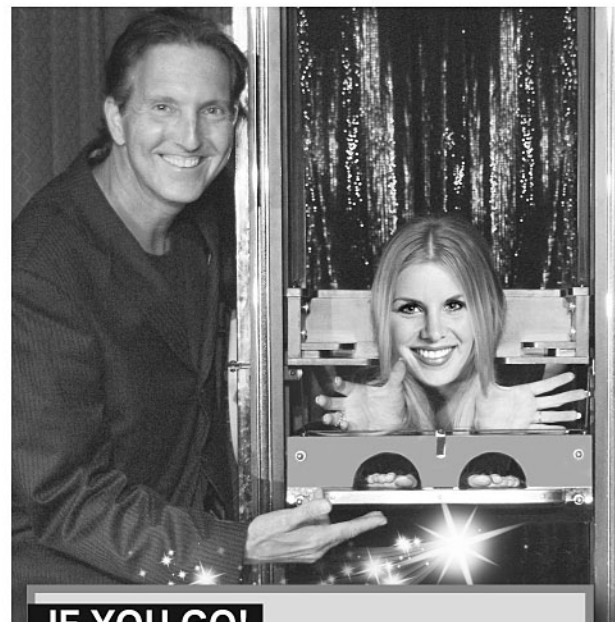
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Please don't wear our clothes... we'll pay you



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Abercrombie & Fitch has offered to pay Michael "The Situation" Sorrentino, a character in hit reality show "Jersey Shore," to stop wearing its clothes, fearing its image is being tarnished.

The offer includes other members of the MTV show's brash, foul-mouthed, spray-

tanned Italian-American cast, and A&F is "urgently waiting a response," the US fashion retailer said in a statement.

The weight-lifting, tight-abbed Sorrentino could have walked straight out of one of A&F's racy ads, which often feature well-toned young models, but the company wants nothing to do with him.

"We are deeply concerned that Mr. Sorrentino's association with our brand could cause significant damage to our image," an A&F spokesman said in the statement, titled "A Win-Win Situation."

"We understand that the show is for entertainment purposes, but believe this association is contrary to the aspirational nature of our brand, and may be distressing to many of our fans."

"We have therefore offered a substantial payment to Michael 'The Situation' Sor-

rentino and the producers of MTV's The Jersey Shore to have the character wear an alternate brand. We have also extended this offer to other members of the cast, and are urgently waiting a response."

"Jersey Shore" first aired in 2009 and follows the adventures of eight young Italian-Americans on the Atlantic coast of the US state of New Jersey as they party all night, fight and drink themselves silly.

Sorrentino, a 29-year-old former model, often lifts his shirt to show off his six-pack in the show, flashing his underwear's A&F logo.

The fourth season of "Jersey Shore" is currently being filmed in Florence, Italy with the first episode earlier this month pulling in a record 8.8 million viewers.

The show recently spawned a spin-off in Britain set in and around the northeastern city of Newcastle and entitled "Geordie Shore" after the nickname given to the people of the region.

Mumbai's lunchbox men to strike in graft protest



MUMBAI (AFP) - Mumbai's famous army of lunchbox delivery men are to stop work for the first time in their 120-year history to support an India-wide anti-corruption campaign, a representative said on Thursday.

Some 5,000 "dabbawallahs" will not deliver home-cooked meals to more than 150,000 office workers in India's financial and entertainment hub on today, as the activist Anna Hazare begins his hunger strike in the capital New Delhi.

"What Anna Hazare is doing is right," Raghunath Medge, president of the Mumbai Dabbawallahs Association, told AFP. "Corruption has to be weeded out and that is why we are supporting him."

"Surely for one day Mumbai's can put up with some hardship to support a wider cause."

Mumbai's dabbawallahs, many of whom are barefoot and cut distinctive figures on the streets in their white cotton homespun uniforms and Nehru caps, have won plaudits around the world for their reliability.

The business magazine Forbes once awarded them a "six sigma" rating, meaning that they have an error rate as low as one per one million deliveries, putting them alongside some of the top businesses in the world.

Fans of the dabbawallahs, who use trains, handcarts and bicycles to deliver the steel tiffin boxes using a complex colour-coded system and 10-digit alpha-numeric code, include the Virgin Group tycoon Richard Branson.

Britain's Prince Charles, who met the delivery men on a visit to India, also invited two dabbawallahs to his wedding to his second wife, Camilla Parker Bowles in 2005 after they sent the couple a wedding present.

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Nissan Murano - a gem for style and refinement

The Nissan Murano is a mid-size crossover SUV first introduced by Nissan in December 2002 and sold as a 2003 model. Nissan ventilated the Murano as its first crossover SUV for the United States and Canada.

The Murano was Nissan's only crossover SUV in the U.S. until September 2007 when the new 2008 Nissan Rogue went on sale. In Canada the X-Trail had been on sale as Nissan's second car-based SUV since 2004 as a 2005 model; it was replaced by the new 2008 Nissan Rogue in late 2007. The Murano is sized between the Xterra and the Pathfinder, but is priced slightly higher than the Nissan Pathfinder.

The Murano was nominated for the North American

Truck of the Year award for 2003. It was also named the best premium mid-size SUV by AutoPacific.

The name Murano comes from a region of Venice, Italy which is known for the hand blown glass produced there.

The 2011 Nissan Murano ranks 11 out of 23 Affordable Midsize SUVs. This ranking is based on analysis of 38 published reviews and test drives of the Nissan Murano, and analysis of reliability and safety data.

The 2011 Nissan Murano is an affordable midsize SUV that is actually fun to drive. With good power, fuel economy and nimble handling, reviewers have no trouble recommending the Murano.

For many buyers, a mid-size SUV is the car you need

— to haul kids, dogs and family gear — but not necessarily the car you want. It's tough to give up a sporty sedan for stodgy looks and performance that's typically geared for comfort. However, reviewers say that with the 2011 Nissan Murano, you can have your family car and still scratch your performance itch.

The Murano is no slouch when it comes to practicality. While it doesn't offer a third-row seat, reviewers say the five-seat SUV is comfortable and accommodating. Plus, it has some handy optional cargo features that make corraling your stuff easy. Good safety ratings and strong fuel economy numbers make it a credible contender as a family crossover. "Murano is a



likable SUV that offers secure handling, a comfortable interior, versatile cargo utility, and a strong, refined powertrain," says Consumer Guide. "Midsize SUV shoppers should add it to their test-drive list."

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FIFTEEN MINUTES

ACROSS

1. Election Day winners
4. Chooses
8. Pig's meal
12. Decimal point
13. Chain link armor
14. Pontifex Maximus
15. Will Smith role, or costar Tatyana
16. Hippie Guthrie
17. Superior inferior
18. Here-today-gone-tomorrow musician
21. Foie or Mardi follower
22. Cease fasting

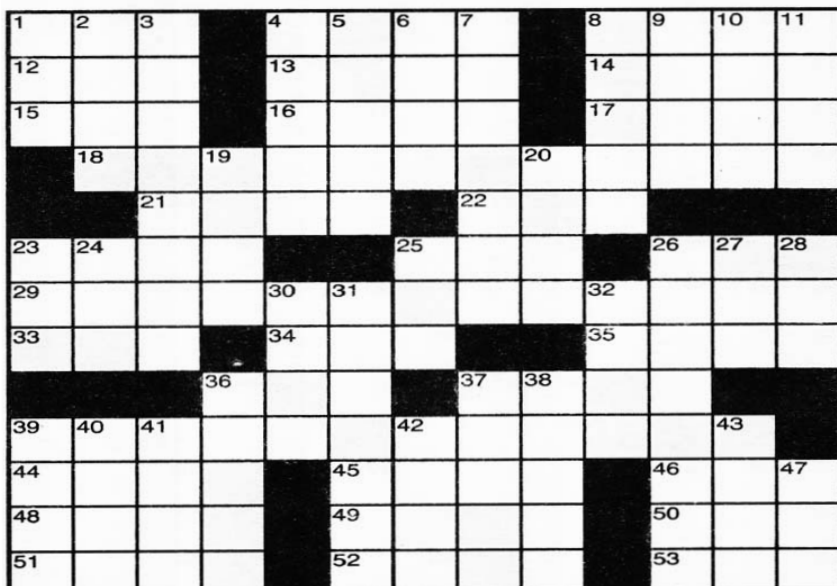
23. Aviation prefix
25. Ending for an adherent
26. Town in Belgium
29. Nine-days wonder
33. Fribble
34. Gopher wood vessel
35. Extreme adverb
36. Masters Tournament entrant
37. Sheltered, at sea
39. Momentary heartthrob
44. Kublai Khan's continent
45. Landed gently
46. Toad's

48. Shade of blue-green
49. Loser in 2000
50. Age of note
51. Controversial Olympic medal winner in 2004
52. Tall, slender vessel
53. Plane's domain

DOWN

1. Noir director Lupino
2. ___ contendere (court plea)
3. Chevy or Schwinn model
4. Brando's

5. Juliet's betrothed
6. Stand like Pisa's tower
7. Pokiest
8. Wiped out
9. Plushbottom, for one
10. Early Ron Howard role
11. Look into
19. Youthful archer
20. Official pledge
23. A.M. follower
24. "Turn to Stone" gp.
25. Cephalopod's defense
26. Political rally's plethora
27. Level of equality
28. Indefinite amount
30. 1932 Garbo role
31. Weaponmaking period
32. Balanced
36. Sacred song
37. Passionate
38. Surfer's "bye"
39. Byway
40. Addled
41. "The King and I" locale
42. Pregnant woman's attribute
43. Wars of the Roses house
47. Remit



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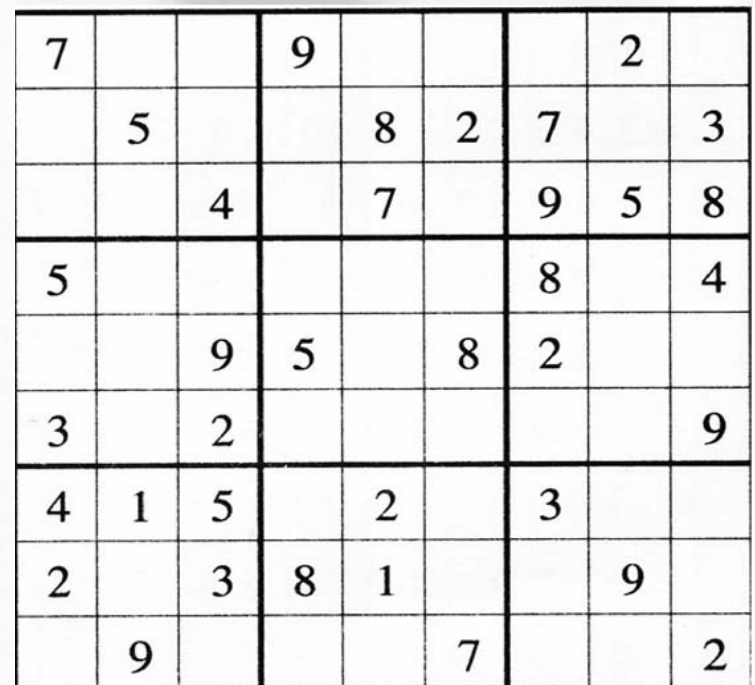
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

7	1	4	9	5	6	8	2	3
5	8	2	7	3	1	9	4	6
3	6	9	4	7	8	5	1	2
5	2	8	1	9	3	7	6	4
4	9	3	8	6	2	1	5	7
2	7	5	3	4	1	8	9	6
6	3	1	5	2	7	4	8	9
8	4	7	9	3	6	2	1	5
1	9	6	2	4	3	5	7	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Oil prices dive nearly \$4 on demand fears, as equities dive

LONDON (AFP) - Crude oil prices sank nearly \$4 on Thursday, after a fresh plunge in global stock markets, as traders fretted over warnings that could slam demand for energy.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude for delivery in September, lost \$5.20 to \$82.38 a barrel.

Brent North Sea crude for October delivery dropped \$3.61 to \$106.99 a barrel.

Global stocks slumped Thursday as more weak data fuelled concern that the world was heading for another recession, and after the US Federal Reserve reportedly expressed

concerns over European banks' liquidity.

Traders' screens were awash with red, as Madrid, Milan and Paris equities plunged more than 6.0 percent, while London, Paris and Zurich shed more than 5.0 percent in a panicky sell-off.

Wall Street plunged by about 4.0 percent in opening trade on Thursday after investment bank Morgan Stanley warned that the United States and Europe were teetering on the brink of a new recession.

The toxic cocktail of negative news sent gold flying to fresh records above \$1,826 per ounce as investors sought the safe-haven precious metal, while oil slid even lower on

worries about dwindling future demand for energy.

"Following the gloomy macroeconomic picture and the recent big builds in oil supplies, we expect crude oil prices to extend recent losses, with potential for WTI to retest the \$75-\$80 level in the coming weeks."

Morgan Stanley meanwhile slashed its 2011 global growth estimate to 3.9 percent from 4.2 percent, and its 2012 forecast to 3.8 percent from 4.5 percent.

Adding to the market fears on Thursday, the US Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia said that manufacturing in the mid-Atlantic states took a sharp hit in August.

Inflation slams consumers as US economy falters

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Inflation roared back in July at the fastest pace since March, squeezing consumers just as the economy appears to be veering toward recession, government data showed Thursday.

The inflation numbers came amid a batch of worse-

than-expected data on the jobs market, manufacturing and housing, and as US and European stocks markets plunged on rising recession fears.

A sharp rebound in gasoline prices and continued increases in food prices drove last month's inflation surge, the Labor Department said Thursday.

While many economists and the Federal Reserve say they expect that higher food and energy prices will prove transitory, that offers cold comfort to Americans who nevertheless must find the money to pay them.

On Main Street, the Labor Department's data showed, Americans faced broad price increases for food, gasoline, clothing and medical care as unemployment stood at a painfully high 9.1 percent.

The consumer price index rose 0.5 percent in July, more

than erasing June's 0.2 percent decline.

It was the hottest headline inflation since March's 0.5 percent rise, but the core CPI, stripping out volatile food and energy prices, eased slightly to 0.2 percent.

The Fed pledged on August 9 to hold interest rates near zero for two more years to counter increased risks of a stall in the world's largest economy.

The central bank offered no successor to the \$600 billion "QE2" stimulus program that wound up in June, but said it was reviewing available tools to boost a slowing economy.

New unemployment insurance claims rose to 408,000 last week, according to the Labor Department, ending a brief respite below the 400,000 threshold in the troubled jobs market.

Dutch official unemployment rate climbs to 5.3%

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Netherlands' seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate jumped three tenths of a point to 5.3 percent in July, the CBS national statistics office said on Thursday.

The number of unem-

ployed rose by 22,000 to pass the 400,000-barrier for the first time in 2011 to stand at 413,000 in July.

The unemployment rate was down from the 5.5 percent recorded in July 2010, however.

US freezes Syrian assets in tough new sanctions



Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama slapped tough new sanctions Thursday on Syria in an executive order that freezes all Syrian state assets and forbids investment and exports to the country.

The order also targets Syria's oil and gas sector, a key revenue stream for President Bashar al-Assad's regime, significantly ramping up pressure on Damascus to halt its assault on pro-democracy protests.

The new sanctions came in the form of an executive order, as US President Barack Obama for the first time called

on Assad to resign over Syria's military assault on the five-month-old revolt inspired by the pro-democracy Arab Spring movement.

In a statement accompanying the order, Obama said Syria's attacks on protesters "constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy and economy of the United States."

Obama said the "unprecedented" sanctions were designed to "deepen the financial isolation of the Assad regime and further disrupt its ability to finance a campaign of violence against the Syrian people."

The executive order prohibits all US investment in the country, exports to Syria and imports of oil and gas.

The European Union echoed Washington's call on Assad to resign and said it was mulling new sanctions, but it was unclear whether it or other countries would take the same far-reaching measures as the United States.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

T	A	B	A	H	S	E	D	G	A	R
E	R	E	R	A	P	C	A	N	N	A
P	E	N	C	H	U	R	C	H	P	E
I	N	C	A	S	R	O	E			
D	A	H	L	I	T	C	H	F	D	A
	M	U	F	F	S	O	B	O	E	S
I	T	A	L	I	A	S	M	O	O	C
L	I	R	A	S	B	O	O	S	T	
L	E	K	S	T	O	W	O	S	L	O
	U	A	R		A	N	T	I	C	
C	H	A	I	R	L	I	F	T	O	T
H	A	L	V	E	N	E	O	O	R	E
I	S	L	E	S	G	Y	P	L	E	T



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Pointers to Ponder

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The 7 Ways to Ruin a New Employee

I must confess that I am no expert on employee relations, or on employee management, but in the same breath I can tell you that in my many years of working with employees, being an employer myself and of training and motivating thousands of employees both here and in other countries, I have learned heaps and heaps of lessons about employee relations and of the management of employees. As a US trained psychologist I am also very cognizant of what makes people do the things they do and how to best get the best out of employees.

That said, I want to address a very important issue

in this and a follow up article....an issue that seems to go ignored in most of our businesses here. Perhaps it is ignored because of the sheer ignorance of the matter.

Recently I came across an article about an employer whose practice is to welcome new employees in a special way so they "get off to a great start." This company's welcoming program would include welcome baskets, long lunches with key members of the staff and other key employees, and plenty of chit chat to make the new employee feel comfortable.

Frankly, I can't see any real value in that kind of program. As a matter of fact such

a welcoming program may even make some insightful new employees feel threatened or totally embarrassed, or even suspicious. Others, mind you, might think it is nice. Well, let me give you my take on what I consider appropriate and of value to both you the employer and you the employee. I will assume that both of you are reading this article.

Unquestionably the very first few days of an employee's new job are critical. You can compare a new employee to an aircraft carrier: Once the pilot gets his plane into the air at a specifically set course, it will take an enormous amount of time and energy to change direction. Employers, likewise, can get the "flight course" of a new employee completely off course.

Let me give you what I consider to be the 7 ways that you as employer can cause damage to a new employee... ways that you can set an employee on the wrong course and actually ruin a good and promising new employee:

1. Welcome them to the "family." Did they do this with you when you were first hired? The principle, according to them is to get the new employee to develop strong interpersonal relationships, positive working relationships, friendships. However, I am convinced that all those come later, if ever. You hire an employee to work, not to build relationships, and certainly not to do so in the first days of his new employment. Instead you want to be polite, courteous, and friendly, but you must stay focused on the fact that the employee was hired to perform a job, and jobs involve work. A new employee should actually earn his way into the "family." through hard work and achievement.

2. Work them in holistically. Some of our modern day employee training guides tell us that providing context for tasks is critical for new employees. I say that is not so: Initially new employees don't need to know how they fit into the overall operation of the business. They need to know how to perform the tasks you hired them to perform. Leave the broader context and holistic approach for later. The new employee is going to be around for a long time, so there will be ample opportunity to show him the rest of what you want him to know. An interesting research and book by Daniel Coyle has revealed that people actually learn best and master complex job tasks when you break those tasks down into smaller, more manageable bits and pieces. What is necessary here is to teach specific processes and to get new employees to demonstrate mastery of those processes. Context can wait.

3. Waver to give the new employee immediate feedback. You should know that new employees are tentative, nervous, and mistake-prone. You might think that it is harsh or unfair to correct or criticize a new employee, but if you don't, you lose an opportunity to set the right tone and put him/her on the exact right track. Obviously your correction must be with kindness and politeness. Unless the job that the new employee is hired to perform involves creativity, every task should have a right way or best way to be performed. Expect, and demand that new employees do things your way. Bad habits are easily formed and nearly impossible to correct. So, correct from day one, you're doing your business a favor and the employee.

4. Weasel around estab-

lishing immediate, tangible goals. New employees need to know what are the immediate goals for his part of the job process. Employers who omit to specify what these are is doing the employee a great disfavor. Successful companies execute. Every new employee should complete at least one concrete, job-related task, even on their first day. As of the very first day a new employee needs to know concretely what he is expected to accomplish that day. Not only do you establish that output is all-important, but new employees will go home feeling a sense of personal achievement. Don't do what so many companies believe to be the "wise" thing to do....have new employees spend days in "orientation." Those long orientation sessions are not only unfulfilling, they make the eventual transition to "work" so much harder. The new employee came to work, you hired him to work...so set him loose and give him the specifics of his job and demand he accomplish the task.

Tomorrow I will give you the other 3 ways that employers can ruin a new employee.

If this was helpful write me and let me know. Thanks. tonygreen.morningnews@hottmail.com



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Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest



Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the

heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community; in this area, the value of properties has only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded get-



away; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy

run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their own home in Aruba will eventually be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for the community with a workout room and spectacular facilities by the end of 2011. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the management association's rental service. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, making it easy for some owners to earn their mortgage payments or others to see an immediate return on their investment.

The design of the structures is open, airy and spacious, fully deploying the



island environment, with the finest quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their homes. An elegant and chic standard package is available, or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval International to provide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Prop-

erty exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



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Eto'o move to Anzhi goes cold: agent

ROME (AFP) - An agent mediating in negotiations between Inter Milan and Anzhi Makhachkala over the transfer of Samuel Eto'o said on Thursday that the deal has gone cold.

Representatives of both clubs have been meeting all week but have failed to come to an agreement on a transfer fee.

Cameroon captain Eto'o

has allegedly agreed terms with the Russian club, believed to be worth 20 million euros a season.

He was supposed to undergo a medical in Rome on Thursday.

However Peppino Tirri said following a meeting in Milan that for the moment it was all off.

"For now the negotiations have gone ice cold and I'm

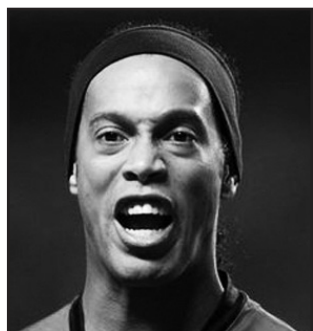
not optimistic at all," he told reporters.

"For now everything has stopped, the transfer is off and we'll talk again tomorrow."

The problem is believed to be the distance between the two clubs' evaluations of Eto'o.

Anzhi have allegedly upped their original 22-million-euro offer to 24 million euros but Inter are said to be holding out for 30 million euros.

Ronaldinho handed Brazil recall to face Ghana



RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Veteran striker Ronaldinho was on Thursday handed a surprise recall to the Brazil squad for next month's friendly against Ghana, with coach Mano Menezes opening the door to the 2014 World Cup finals.

The 31-year-old, now playing for Flamengo in the Brazilian championship, last played for Brazil in November 2010 after being overlooked for the World Cup in South Africa when his club career at AC Milan began to flag.

But Menezes said Ronaldinho deserves another opportunity in a misfiring Brazil team which has struggled in recent months with a quarter-final exit at the Copa America and a 2-0 loss to Germany

in a friendly.

"Ronaldinho is a world champion with the Brazil team and after his return to the country he has readjusted and he is playing very well," said Menezes, of a player who has scored 15 goals in total this season.

"He is becoming one of the best players of the season and what has been successful with Flamengo can also help the national team."

Menezes has also recalled Real Madrid defender Marcelo, Cruzeiro goalkeeper Fabio as well as strikers Hulk, of Porto, and Leandro Damiao from Inter Porto Alegre for the match against Ghana at Craven Cottage in London on September 5.

Daniilo, a midfielder with the youth team which has reached the world Under-20 final in Colombo, steps up to the senior squad.

After facing Ghana, Brazil will then meet Argentina, Costa Rica, Mexico and Gabon in further friendlies before the end of the year.

Brazil face Ghana at Craven Cottage in London on September 5.

Rain frustrates England in India finale



Andrew Strauss of England plays the ball on the leg side

LONDON (AFP) - England's hopes of completing a white-wash against India were hampered by the weather on Thursday, with rain preventing play after lunch on the first day of the fourth Test at The Oval.

England, at stumps, were stuck on their lunch score of 75 without loss after captain Andrew Strauss, who won the toss, defied the gloomy

overhead conditions by opting to bat first on a typically good Oval pitch.

Strauss was 38 not out and fellow left-hander Alastair Cook 34 not out, with England already 3-0 up in this four-match series after a crushing innings and 242-run victory third Test victory at Edgbaston saw them replace India at the top of the ICC's Test Championship table.

"The wicket looked pretty good, a bit of fluffy grass, brown in colour," said England batting coach Graham Gooch.

"But whatever happens at the toss, you have to play good cricket," the former England captain added.

Rain meant only 26 of the day's scheduled 90 overs were bowled.

England's most concerning moment of the morning came when Strauss, on 24, bailed out of a pull shot against an Ishant Sharma bouncer and saw the ball crash into his helmet, breaking a piece of the peak.

But, after calling for a replacement helmet, Strauss was not troubled again by a largely ineffectual India attack.

India, beset by injuries, suffered another when

medium-pacer Praveen Kumar, one of their few successes this series, was ruled out before the toss.

It had been thought Kumar's absence was due to a thumb injury while batting in the third Test.

But an India statement, issued only at tea, said Kumar had been ruled out with a left ankle injury sustained while bowling as England piled up a mammoth 710 for seven declared at Edgbaston.

Kumar was replaced by Rudra Pratap Singh, playing his first Test in more than three years and himself only on tour as an injury call-up for fellow left-arm seamer Zaheer Khan, who broke down in the series opener at Lord's.

What turned out to be persistent rain started to fall during the lunch break and play was abandoned for the day at 5pm local time (1600GMT).

But as England needed fewer than four days to win both the second and third Tests, they still had every chance of completing a clean sweep.

Rockies Jacobs suspended for HGH

DENVER (AFP) - Colorado Rockies player Mike Jacobs became the first Major League Baseball player to be suspended for using human growth hormone, the league announced on Thursday.

Jacobs, 30, was slapped with a 50-game suspension after failing the test while playing for the Rockies Colorado Springs farm team.

Jacobs played six major league seasons, collecting 100 homers and 310 RBIs with a career .254 batting average with the New York Mets, Florida Marlins and Kansas City Royals.

The Rockies released him after news of the failed test.

Volvo Ocean Race redraw routes in fear of piracy attacks



PARIS (AFP) - Fears of attacks by pirates in the Indian Ocean has forced the organisers of the 2011/12 Volvo Ocean Race to redraw the

second and third leg routes in the 39,000 nautical mile round-the-world challenge.

Somali pirates, who mainly target cargo ships,

currently hold around 50 ships, according to the environmental non-governmental organisation Ecoterra International.

Spain in uproar over Barca-Madrid pitch violence



Real Madrid's José Mourinho is restrained at the end of the Spanish Super Cup after Marcelo had fouled Barcelona's Cesc Fábregas

BARCELONA (AFP) - Spain reacted with outrage Thursday after Barcelona's 3-2 Super Cup win over Real Madrid descended into violent scenes with defeated coach Jose Mourinho jabbing a rival in the eye.

Television images and photos on the front pages Thursday showed Mourinho poking his finger into the eye of Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola's assistant Tito Vilanova as players brawled on the field.

"Pito Vilanova? I don't know who this Pito is," Mourinho said after the match.

Television pictures showed the Portuguese coach walking over to Vilanova at the side of the pitch and poking him in the left eye.

Barcelona's Vilanova could then be seen giving a smiling Mourinho a hard slap in the back as he walked away.

Barcelona defender Gerard Pique accused Mourinho of wrecking Spanish football.

"Sincerely, Mourinho is

destroying Spanish football. Sometimes they say we Catalans are the guilty ones, but the guilty ones are over there in Madrid," he said after the match according to broadcaster RTVE.

"Every game cannot finish like that," he said.

A Lionel Messi double took the European and Spanish champions Barcelona to a 5-4 aggregate win over bitter rivals Real Madrid in their Super Cup second leg clash in the Camp Nou.

But the bad feeling between the two sides boiled over at the end of the match, which ran past midnight and into the early hours of Thursday.

Brazilian Marcelo set off the sparks when he was dismissed for a late challenge on former Arsenal captain Cesc Fabregas, who made his debut towards the end of the game.

In an ensuing brawl on the pitch, Mesut Ozil of Real Madrid and Barcelona's David Villa were also sent off, bringing the red-card

total to three.

Fabregas tried to play down the scrap, saying after the match: "It is very competitive football, they are the two greatest clubs in the world, it is a very strong rivalry."

But Guardiola said the violence risked getting out of hand.

"One day someone is going to get hurt and that is what we have to watch out for," he told reporters after the match.

The press lashed out.

"Deplorable Madrid, deplorable Mourinho," blared a headline in Barcelona-based sports daily Mundo Deportivo above pictures of Mourinho's eye-jab.

"Deplorable Mourinho," said the front page of the daily Sport.

"Mourinho and Guardiola's assistant Tito Vilanova were also deplorable protagonists in the final free-for-all. Mou put his finger in the eye of Pep's number two and he replied by slapping the Portuguese on the back," said daily Marca.

MLB Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	74	46	.617	--
NY YANKEES	73	46	.613	0.5
TAMPA	64	56	.533	10.0
TORONTO	61	60	.504	13.5
BALTIMORE	47	72	.395	26.5

Central

DETROIT	64	57	.529	--
CLEVELAND	60	57	.513	2.0
CHICAGO	60	60	.500	3.5
MINNESOTA	53	67	.442	10.5
KANSAS	50	72	.410	14.5

West

TEXAS	70	52	.574	--
LA ANGELES	65	57	.533	5.0
SEATTLE	53	67	.442	16.0
OAKLAND	53	68	.438	16.5

National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
PHILADELPHIA	78	41	.655	--
ATLANTA	71	51	.582	8.5
NY METS	59	62	.488	20.0
WASHINGTON	57	62	.479	21.0
FLORIDA	56	65	.463	23.0

Central

MILWAUKEE	71	51	.582	--
ST. LOUIS	65	57	.533	6.0
CINCINNATI	59	62	.488	11.5
PITTSBURG	57	63	.475	13.0
CHICAGO	54	68	.433	17.0
HOUSTON	38	84	.311	33.0

West

ARIZONA	68	53	.562	--
SAN FRANCISCO	66	56	.541	2.5
COLORADO	57	66	.463	12.0
LA DODGERS	55	65	.458	12.5
SAN DIEGO	54	69	.439	15.0

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Nadal survives scare to advance



CINCINNATI (AFP) - Rafael Nadal continued his mastery over Fernando Verdasco on Thursday, but he needed three tiebreakers to outlast his fellow Spaniard in a marathon third round match at the Cincinnati Masters.

The 25-year-old Nadal pulled out a 7-6 (7/5), 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (11/9) victory over Verdasco in three hours and 37 minutes to reach the quarter-finals of the ATP and WTA hardcourt tournament.

The second seeded Nadal improved to 12-0 lifetime against the unseeded Verdasco who committed 41 unforced errors to 31 for Nadal.

Nadal hit less winners than Verdasco (29-48) but was more consistent with his mixture of shots and had just two double faults compared to seven for his opponent.

For the second consecu-

tive match, Nadal played with two fingers on his right hand bandaged after he burned them while grabbing a hot plate at a restaurant earlier this week.

Nadal next faces American seventh seed Mardy Fish who outlasted France's Richard Gasquet 7-5, 7-5.

In other men's third round matches on Thursday, Czech Tomas Berdych beat Nicolas Almagro, of Spain, 6-2, 6-2, and fourth seeded Briton Andy Murray defeated American Alex Bogomolov 6-2, 7-5.

On the women's side of the draw, fourth seed Maria Sharapova cruised past Russian compatriot Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-2, 6-3, Aussie Samantha Stosur defeated Li Na of China 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 and second seed Vera Zvonareva routed qualifier Petra Martic 6-2, 6-2.

Wozniacki drops father as coach



COPENHAGEN (AFP) - World number one Caroline Wozniacki has dropped her father Piotr as coach in a dramatic attempt to halt a worrying slump in form just 11 days before the start of the US Open.

"I am no longer her coach. Who will be the new one? I promised I wouldn't say," Piotr Wozniacki told the Ek-

stra Bladet newspaper.

The pair agreed to make the change, he said, after Wozniacki's third consecutive fourth-round exit at Wimbledon earlier this year.

Since then, she has lost both her openers at the Toronto and Cincinnati events, the traditional tune-ups before the US Open, the season's final Grand Slam event, which gets underway on August 29.

"From morning to night, we have heard how Caroline should play. Now we are trying something else. I am Caroline's father and I will always support her," said Piotr Wozniacki, a former professional footballer.

Breakfast

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

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*2 eggs sunny side up with ham & cheese

*Scrambled with ham, cheese, onions, green pepper, tomato, mushroom

*Plain omelettes with ham, cheese, onion, green pepper, tomato, mushroom

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*SWEET CRÊPES

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Brazil v Portugal in under-20s World Cup final

BOGOTA (AFP) - Brazil beat Mexico and Portugal ousted France, both by 2-0 scorelines, on Wednesday to set up a mouthwatering under-20s World Cup final.

France dominated for much of the game in Medellin against the Portuguese, but failed to find a way past a rock-solid defense that has yet to allow a goal in the tournament.

And they paid the price with two goals from set-pieces, Danilo heading in from a corner after just nine minutes and Nelson Oliveira slotting home a penalty five minutes from half-time.


"Congratulations to Portu-

gal in reaching the final. but we really handed it to them," said France coach Francis Smerecki.

Brazil were on top throughout against the Mexicans, but like France found it tough to find the net.


The breakthrough came in the last six minutes with a double from Henrique which made him joint top-scorer in the tournament on five goals alongside Spain's Alvaro Vazquez.

Saturday's final will take place in Bogota with Brazil going for a fifth title and first since 2003 at this level and Portugal a third after 1989 and 1995.



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Serena plans to be healthy for US Open

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Fourteen-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams says she is recovering from her foot injury and should be healthy in time for the US Open which begins in less than two weeks.

Williams, who has won

two of her last three tournaments, used the social networking site Twitter on Thursday to say she is motivated to compete in New York.

"Guys! Ill be ok! Ill be at the US Open! I wanna be there just as much (more) as

u guys want me to!:)I'm already doing better," she wrote.

Williams pulled out of the WTA hardcourt tournament in Cincinnati Wednesday, complaining of a sore big toe on her right foot.

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